

REMARKS

Claims 2-13 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 2 and 3 are amended, claims 5-13 are added, and claim 1 is canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein. No new matter is added.

I. IDS Acknowledgement

An Information Disclosure Statement with Form PTO-1449 was filed in the above-captioned patent application on August 16, 2006. Applicants have not yet received from the Examiner a copy of the Form PTO-1449 initialed to acknowledge the fact that the Examiner has considered the disclosed information. The Examiner is requested to initial and return to the undersigned a copy of the Form PTO-1449. For the convenience of the Examiner, a copy of that form is attached.

II. Pending Claims 2-13 Defines Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,319,517 to Nomura et al. in view of JP 11-103022. The rejection of canceled claim 1 is moot, and the rejection of claims 2-4 is respectfully traversed.

Claims 2-4 depend from new claim 5. Neither of the applied references teaches or suggests the claimed method of a multilayer ceramic capacitor that includes the claimed dielectric layers and internal electrode layers as recited in independent claim 5. Further, neither of the applied references teach or suggest the claimed method of a multilayer ceramic capacitor that include the dielectric layers and internal electrode layers as recited in independent claims 6 and 7.

As acknowledged by the December 4, 2003 Office Action in the parent application, Application No. 09/865,575, now U.S. Patent No. 6,785,121, neither of these applied references teach or suggest these features.

Thus, for at least the reasons discussed above, independent claims 5-7 are patentable over the applied references. Further, claims 2-4, and new claims 8-13, which variously depend from claims 5-7, are also patentable over the applied references for at least the reasons discussed above, as well as for the additional features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection is thus respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 2-13 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Randi B. Isaacs
Registration No. 56,046

JAO:RBI/lmf

Attachment:
Form PTO-1449

Date: September 14, 2006

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--